

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 AID-05 SAM-01 SSM-05 /103 W

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R 191455Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6215

INFO USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

UNCLAS CAIRO 11163

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR EG LE SY XF

SUBJECT: CAIRO PRESS ON LEBANON AND ARAB SUMMIT

1. SUMMARY. PRESS REPORTS SADAT AGREEMENT ON ARAB SUMMIT AND AL SWINGS INTO ACTION. CONTRASTS POSITIVE EGYPTIAN AND NEGATIVE SYRIAN ATTITUDES TOWARDS PALESTINIANS. COMMENTARY ROUGH ON SYRIANS AND RIGHTISTS. END SUMMARY.

2. MAJOR STORY AUGUST 19 WAS "AGREEMENT WITHOUT RESERVATION" TO PROPOSAL FOR ARAB SUMMIT TO SAVE "DETERIORATING SITUATION." STATEMENT MADE ON ARRIVAL IN SAUDI ARABIA.

3. ACTING AL SYG ASAAD AL ASAAD REPORTEDLY TOLD ARAB AMBASSADORS AUGUST 18 THAT DANGEROUS LEBANESE SITUATION "DICTATES NEED FOR HOLDING URGENT SUMMIT." AMBASSADOR REQUESTED TO CONVEY AL VIEW TO THEIR GOVERNMENTS. ASSAD ALSO CONTACTED

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ASSISTANT SYG NOFAL, LEADING AL DELEGATION TO NAC WITH

REQUEST THAT HE SOUND OUT ARAB FONMINS AT COLOMBO ON BEST TIME AND PLACE FOR CONFERENCE. "POLITICAL CIRCLES" IN KUWAIT EXPECT AGREEMENT FROM REST OF ARABS WITHIN 48 HOURS. PAPERS REPORT SPECULATION THAT VENUE WILL BE CAIRO OR REYADH.

4. PRESS CONTRASTS QADDUMI STATEMENT ON SADAT'S "SYMPATHETIC AND ENCOURAGING STAND" TOWARDS PALESTINIANS WITH REPORT THAT SYRIA OFFERED PALESTINIANS CHOICE BETWEEN WITHDRAWALS FROM LEBANESE MOUNTAINS OR "COMPREHENSIVE ANNIHILATION AS AT TEL ZATAR." "ULTIMATUM" SAID TO MAKE SITUATION "MUCH MORE DANGEROUS."

5. AHAM EDITORIAL LUMPED FRANJIYYA, ASAD AND ISRAELI NAVY TOGETHER IN DISCUSSING "PLOT" TO FRUSTRATE POLITICAL SOLUTION. RIGHTISTS WITHOUT HONOR HAVE VIOLATED ALL 54 CEASEFIRE AGREEMENTS WHILE SYRIANS AND ISRAELIS COOPERATE IN CUTTING PALESTINIAN AND LEFTIST SUPPLIES BY LAND AND SEA. AKHBAR'S AHMED ZAYN TOOK TIME OFF FROM HIS ANTI-QADHAFI CAMPAIGN TO DENOUNCE FRANJIYA.

6. AP REPORTS AL SYG RIAD HAS PREPARED REPORT FOR ARAB CHIEFS-OF-STATE URGING THEM TO INCREASE SIZE OF AL FORCE IN LEBANON TO 10,000 BECAUSE CURRENT FORCE IS TOO SMALL TO STOP FIGHTING OR DO ANYTHING ABOUT ISRAELI SEA BLOCKADE.
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